# Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants - Online edition

# Syncarpia glomulifera (Sm.) Nied. subsp. glomulifera

Family:

## Myrtaceae

Bean, A.R. (1995) Austrobaileya 4(3): 340.

Common name:

Luster; Red Luster; Turpentine

Stem

Bark thick and fibrous.

## Leaves

Pale brown oil dots visible with a lens. Leaf bearing twigs and petioles clothed in short, pale hairs which become almost black with age. Leaf blades about 3.5-6.5 x 1.6-3.2 cm.

#### **Flowers**

Flowers aggregated into dense heads, about seven flowers per head, peduncles about 20-25 mm long, individual flowers sessile. Calyx lobes and petals densely pubescent. Ovary apex densely pubescent.

#### Fruit

Fruits aggregated into heads, about seven individual fruits per head. Individual fruits sessile, densely pubescent, calyx lobes persistent at the apex. Seeds small, about  $1.5-2 \times 0.5$  mm. Cotyledons rolled lengthways.

# Seedlings

Cotyledons about 2 x 3-4 mm, apex truncate, base cuneate. At the tenth leaf stage: leaf blade elliptic, apex acute, base cuneate, upper surface with a few scattered, pale hairs; oil dots scattered, visible with a lens; petiole, stem and terminal bud clothed in long pale hairs. Seed germination time 12 to 36 days.

# Distribution and Ecology

Endemic to Australia, occurs in NEQ, CEQ and southwards as far as south-eastern New South Wales. Altitudinal range in NEQ from 300-1100 m. Grows in wet sclerophyll forest and on rain forest margins.

# Natural History & Notes

Much valued for use as wharf piles particularly when used with the bark still attached. Also used as sleepers. Swain (1928).

Wood specific gravity 0.94. Cause et al. (1989).

## Synonyms

Nania glomulifera (Sm.) Kuntze, Revisio Generum Plantarum 1: 242(1891). Syncarpia glomulifera (Sm.) Nied., Die Naturlichen Pflanzenfamilien 3(7): 88(1893). Metrosideros glomulifera Sm., Trans. Linn. Soc. London 3: 269(1797), Type: New South Wales, Port Jackson, in 1791, D. Burton s.n.; holo: LINN.

# **RFK Code**

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Leaves, flowers and fruit. © CSIRO



Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal

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